Press Release

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Larrabee in Top 10 in International Bus Roadeo

Clallam Transit System Operator David Larrabee, a veteran bus operator with over 10 years of experience at CTS, finished seventh in the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) 2016 International Bus Roadeo held this week in Charlotte, North Carolina. The bus roadeo was held in conjunction with the annual APTA Bus and Paratransit Conference.

Larrabee, a veteran bus operator with over 10 years of experience at CTS, competed in the 35' bus division against drivers from around the United States and Canada to test driving skills, customer service, and safety practices. The roadeo tests the skills of transit operators with stations simulating various driving situations. Safety practices, passenger relations, and transporting the disabled are other facets of the competition.

Gabe Beliz of Ben Franklin Transit in Tri-Cities, Washington, placed first among the 22 contestants operating 35' buses through the course. Penny Phillips from the Yakima Transit Division of the City of Yakima, Washington, finished in eighth place.

The International Bus Roadeo is a unique learning opportunity for operators and maintenance teams to engage with other transit agency professionals up close and personal.

“We’re very proud of David in representing Clallam Transit so well amongst his peers. The operators who drove in this competition are the best in the country,” reflected General Manager Wendy Clark-Getzin, PE. “David has again demonstrated the highest degree of professional driving skills.”

Larrabee took third place honors in Washington State Bus Roadeo competition last August in Vancouver, Washington, which earned him the right to complete in Charlotte in the spring of 2016. He also drove in the national competition last May in Fort Worth, Texas, after placing third in the Washington state bus roadeo competition in 2014.

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